

ZOLA



ZOLA is a Billboard® award winning songwriter, recording artist and performance coach. Her songs span many genres (jazz, blues, pop, country, cabaret and children’s music). She has lived in, and travels between, USA and South Africa, where performs as a solo artist, writes and records new original music for upcoming albums, on commission, for corporate events and for other artists. ZOLA is also an educational content editor and keynote speaker.

BACKGROUND

ZOLA, born in Cape Town, South Africa, apparently began singing long before she could talk. She started composing songs at the piano at a very young age and by the time she was a teenager, she had already had a number of her songs published. Being the daughter of a world renowned Broadway actress/singer/comedienne, CHAYELA ROSENTHAL, ZOLA’s introduction to the arts came about at a very young age. Her love of musical theater came naturally, as did her gifted talents as a singer and her ability to act. By age three she was already the favorite child star in the open air summer stage shows. At age nine, ZOLA was singing and dancing in local community variety shows with “*The Tripple Ripple*” – a singing trio she formed with her two best buddies! She continued on to play the lead role in her school plays. Growing up, ZOLA saw every musical movie, or theatrical production that she could, after which she would race home, humming the theme songs in her head, and run to the piano where her little fingers would effortlessly bring those melodies out to play. While greatly inspired by Broadway musicals, film scores and instrumentals, ZOLA’s early, yet major, musical influences also included Barbara Streisand, The Carpenters, The Beatles, Sting and the legendary jazz greats.

In her college years, while singing with leading general business bands, ZOLA wrote and performed “First Dance” wedding songs for herself and a few close friends. She then moved on to voiceovers, commercials, contract work for hire, songs for film, and privately commissioned songwriting projects.

After her parents and sister passed on, ZOLA continued their legacy, sharing stories of her heritage through Holocaust related presentations, keynote addresses, multimedia workshops and performing Yiddish songs her mother sang and Uncle Leyb Rozental wrote in the Vilna Ghetto.

ZOLA continues to work as a Performance Coach in between songwriting, recording and performing – all with equal passion and love.

MUSIC EDUCATION & CAREER PATH

ZOLA’s formal musical education began with a few piano lessons and the graduation from a ten-year program with the Gertrude Haas Performance School of Music (South Africa). Songwriting began in her teens and ZOLA did voice-overs, wrote and performed jingles at the South African Broadcasting Company and by age 18, had had a number of her songs signed to Segal Publications Publishing House. In 1981, she opened her own Creative Arts School and began teaching, performance coaching, writing and directing children’s musical theatre and entertaining at special events. ZOLA graduated from University of Cape Town (South Africa) with a Bachelor of Arts Degree that included majoring in Psychology – with a focus on Child Development.

ZOLA moved to USA in 1986 where her commercial work and performances continued. Further music education includes completing various credited Songwriting and Performance Courses at Berklee College of Music and the Cambridge Centre for Adult Education (Boston, MA), and attending private consultations, workshops and tuition by Grammy Hit songwriters and USA music industry professionals and award winning music biz authors. ZOLA is also a member of BMI, SGA (Songwriting Guild of America), BACA (Boston Association of Cabaret Artists) and jazzboston.

SIGNIFICANT LIVE PERFORMANCE VENUES

- ~ Scullers Jazz Club (Boston – USA)

- ~ [Baxter Theatre](#) (Cape Town – South Africa)
- ~ [Artscape](#) (Cape Town, South Africa)

AWARDS – AFFILIATIONS

- Recipient of over a dozen *Billboard*® Songwriting awards.
- Showcase Director for The Boston Songwriters Workshop.
- Host and Co-writer of PLAYSHOPS – video series developed by *Magic Books Video*.

FILM

- “[The Dancing Pumpkin](#)”- a children’s DVD/Film released by Hollywood’s Silver Hammer Studios.
- “[Generation to Generation](#)”, a Holocaust Documentary series featuring ZOLA’s music and theme songs

RECORDINGS

ZOLA made her debut as a jazz artist at Boston’s renowned [Scullers](#) Jazz Club, where she released her jazz-pop album “[HERE WITH YOU](#)”, recorded at Dreamworld Productions studio, featuring some of Boston’s finest jazz musicians. Zola has released a number of other original music albums, including [music for children](#), is also featured on numerous compilation albums and her songs are featured in Documentary films and more.

MUSIC FOR CHILDREN

Besides her love of music, dogs, sunshine, mountains & ocean (scenery from childhood) ZOLA also adores children. Since the age of eighteen, ZOLA has been working with children (in between writing and performing). She writes, produces and directs children’s musicals and teaches music and drama classes in creative arts programs. ZOLA also entertains at children’s parties, bar-mitzvah’s and fund-raisers and was named “one of the best” entertainers by the [Boston Parents Paper](#). She has written, arranged, recorded and licensed music for children’s film and has released a number of albums featuring her [original children’s songs](#) under the Jollypop Productions Label. Enjoy the children’s music videos on [Zola’s YouTube Channel](#)!

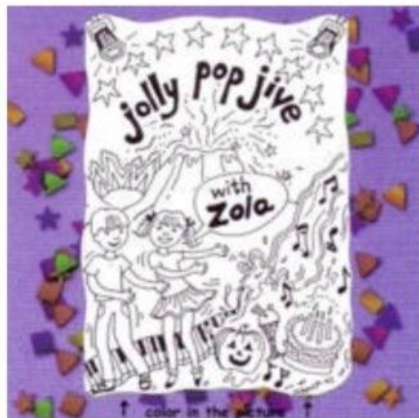
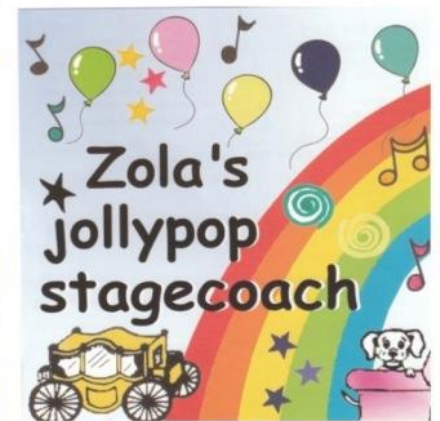
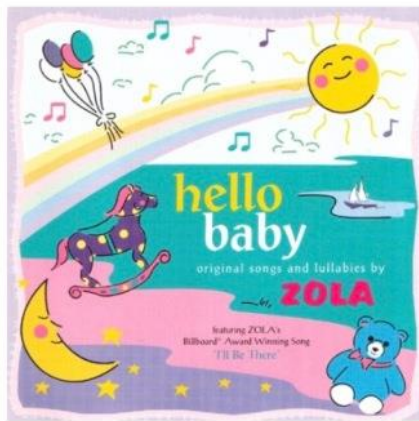
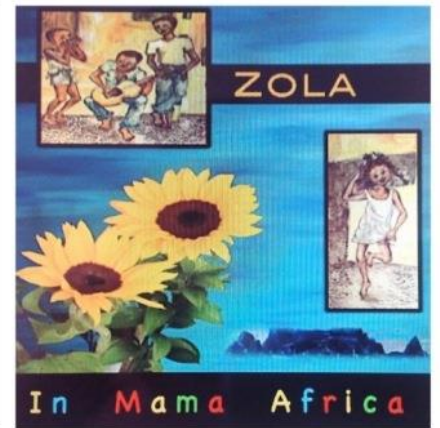


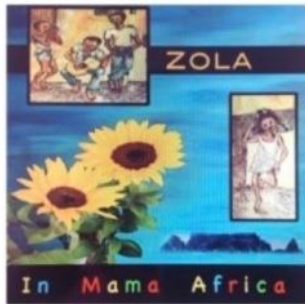
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SONG GIFTS

A unique gift to cherish forever!

Celebrate special moments, events and loved ones with a song of their own

Birthday
Friend
Thank You
New Baby
Graduation
Congratulations

Wedding
Anniversary
Mother's Day
Father's Day
Secretary
Special Event

in Memory of
Christmas
Valentine's Day
Chanukah
I Love You
Bar/Bat Mitzvah

WE CREATE SONGS FOR ANY OCCASION

- Have a personalized and customized original song written just for you – based upon stories, anecdotes and other information you send us.
- Your “special song” will be recorded and produced with full backing arrangement – available as MP3 or on a CD.
- A lyric sheet is included ~ When printed and framed, it makes a cool keepsake.
- Each project is priced individually so we can try to accommodate your budget.
- Your completed order can be sent via email (Song as MP3 and Lyrics as PDF)
- Song Gifts sent by regular mail will require payment of Shipping & Handling costs.
- Contact Zola for pricing.



PERFORMANCE COACHING

You are not too young or too old to “wow” any audience with new found confidence, readiness, skill, talent and a striking stage presence!

PRIVATE LESSONS FOCUS ON ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- confidence building
- presentation and audition preparedness
- performance style and movement
- the art of acting and/or singing with expression
- stage presence
- microphone technique
- voice projection
- song or speech structure
- rhythm and pitch
- easy alternatives to the hard to reach musical notes
- selection of appropriate content and material

Zola will have you or your child “star” shining so bright!



REVIEWS

“Exuberant ZOLA at Scullers Jazz Club

She has those delicate, ethereal high notes which quiver with emotion, like Dolly Parton’s breathy coloratura. She writes her own material, as well — in almost every musical style: blues, country & western, romantic ballads, even an anthem for South Africa (where she’s from).

She has only one name and it’s Zola!

Zola does it all and she has a new CD, “HERE WITH YOU”, produced by wunderkind Doug Hammer, whose arrangements (for his kickin’ band) are shimmering. We all know Hammer can ignite a piano but who knew he could make orchestral magic, too.

Zola composes long, languorous songs. like the four and a half minute appropriately titled “Long Long Time” which has a lovely duet for

Hammer and Trent Austin on trumpet — and snappy, tongue in cheek send-ups like “Cocoa Bean Blues”(“I get mean if I’m deprived of my cocoa bean.”) with Hammer jazzing it up in stride. Her slow, sexy, bluesy “Worth Your While” has a sassy, sultry trumpet solo for Austin which could heat up the Arctic — and her “In Another Lifetime” will have you thinking of Olivia Newton John’s “I Honestly Love You” — except Zola’s song is sweeter.

Her songs have a startling immediacy like her plaintive, “come hither” [I need to be with you) “Right Now” which features Austin’s silky trumpet and Steve Chaggarris’s whispering beat on drums. She has fun (and gets down) with her funky “Pin Stripe Blues” and pays tribute to both her mother and her homeland with the hypnotic Mother Africa.”

The standout song (which everyone should be covering) is the bittersweet “Blue Rain.” co-authored with Jon Seiff. They capture the wistful melancholy of an unforgettable lost love with literate rhymes and soft, echoing raindrops supplied by David Landoni on bass. Dreamy vocals, gorgeous orchestrations: Don’t miss them next time Zola and Hammer come to Scullers for a party. – By Beverly Creasey (*IRNE / THE THEATRE MIRROR* – Boston, USA)

Reviews for “HERE WITH YOU ” CD :

“I really enjoyed it. Your voice sounds really smooth as do your compositions and arrangements.” – *Anton Fig – Drummer, CBS Orchestra for David Letterman*

“I was blown away. Great performances by everyone, on this CD, as well as wonderful arrangements and production... Zola’s original jazz/pop/cabaret songs and performances are a warm hug, a sensuous cuddle under a warm blanket a sense of 30s and 40s déjà vu from an ancient soul in a contemporary time a soulfully intimate, expressive voice that wraps around her timeless melodies and contemporary love lyrics like a blue mist.” – *John Braheny, Author: “The Craft and Business of Songwriting” (Writer’s Digest Books) / Columnist: Music Biz Magazine*

“ ...really a beautiful, beautiful CD....” – *Holly Harris – WBOS 92.9 – Blues on Sunday – Boston, USA*

"... a really talented band." –Virginia Prescott, WBUR – HERE & NOW

" A fine piece of work....and ("My Prayer") so timely with what is going on in the world." – Sherrill Blackman – SDB Music Group, Publisher, Nashville

"...listening to your CD..... I am floored and in love. The arrangements, your voice, your songs, your presence and intentions – all stellar. I really love this." – Dane Vannatter – Recording Artist

CABARET SCENES – USA (2007):

"On *Here With You*, Zola brings her warm, voluptuous voice to a collection of her own songs..... Zola was raised in an environment well acquainted with love, need loss and hope, all of which become the building blocks of her original compositions..... her sultry vocals bring depth, texture and subtlety to every song,it is her rich nuanced vocals and musical director Doug Hammer's evocative arrangements that bring color and distinction to each song, yet maintain a quality of listenable cohesion about the whole. *Pin Stripe Blues*, the peppiest of the bunch, with a sizzling muted trumpet behind Zola's suggestive vocals, is New Orleans jazz all the way, while *This Is How It Is* could be sung by a teased-hair vinyl booted, mini-skirted country singer.But it is with *Blue Rain*, co-written with Jon Seiff, that Zola touches us most deeply, reflecting on the loss of a loved one. Zola sums up her life's philosophy in her closing number, *My Prayer*, an anthem of hope suitable for any vigil, as reassuring as a mothers hug, and as forward reaching as a child's soul." – John Amodeo, *Cabaret Scenes Magazine*

"...a rare gift...Zola's voice and crystal clear phrasing are outstanding.... the accompanying band blended and supported her superbly with opportunities for great instrumental solos.... This new CD is on par with Sarah McLachlan and Jewel.....The last song... left me stunned. This particular song ... is the essence of Zola's artistry. The words and message with Zola's voice and feeling moved me.... Every once in a long while, a special song comes along that combines beautiful words, a message that has power, sensitivity, and beautiful melody with beautiful voice and piano accompanying and this is one of those rare moments that I believe anyone singing this song after Zola will

have an extremely hard act to follow.....It would not surprise me if this CD is a major hit!! – *Kevin Luey, President of Boston Association of Cabaret Artists*

“...Her compositions are uplifting, colorful, inspirational, blending into superb arrangements, abundance of musical and vocal virtuosity and that heart-felt pure and warm voice.....This woman is a true gem!” – *Maximilien de Lafayette, Author “Music Showbiz and Entertainment – Volume III of the World’s Who’s Who in Jazz Cabaret, Music & Entertainment” (pg 1525) “*

“...I love the great mood pieces and what a beautiful voice....it’s filled with so much air and light....” – *Beth Nielsen Chapman – Hit Songwriter, Performing Artist and Grammy Nominee*

“ ...very strong songs with beautiful musical changes” – *Jason Blume, Hit Songwriter and Author*

“When thinking of Zola and American Popular music, the one word that comes to mind is “savoir”. Her voice and compositions have an emotion and romance that wrap around you like the sounds of days gone by, with a command of the heart that is rarely found in music today.” —*Eric Preusser, Producer- Magnetic Music*

“....good hooks and such pretty melodies...” *Ralph Murphy, Hit Songwriter, Assistant VP ASCAP, Nashville*

“Zola’s performance really impressed me. She is a talented songwriter with a wonderful personality and a great voice. ” —*Ron Gill, Jazz DJ-WGBH Radio, 89.7 FM BOSTON.*

“I just watched your video and was mesmerized all over again!... You are so wonderful to watch and listen to! PLEASE do another concert!” – *Krisanthi*

“I was so blown away by (Zola’s) incredible show last night!!! (Her) songs were magnificent, I was so drawn into every single one of them. (Her) lyrics made me feel like I was a part of (her) life and the music made me feel as warm and comfortable as (she does herself) as a person. (Her) voice was crystal clear and beautiful and (her) sensuality was exuding!!! ...I didn’t want it to end..... amazing!!!” – *Krisanthi (jazz performing artist and songwriter)*

Reviews for "ON THE BLUE SIDE" :

"Zola covers the songswith a voice that's alluring and sensuous, a truly wonderful listening experience." –*Metronome Magazine, May 2002.*

"This disc is major chill....a lullaby of fantastic blues/jazz/pop ballads. The inspired lyrics are delivered with clarity, heart and wistful passion." –*Impact Press, "Top Picks," August 2002*"The beautiful voice of Zola combined with the songs from Jon Seiff makes for a wonderful combination. Jon's songs are wonderful in themselves but Zola takes Jon's songs and adds a special touch...." –*Purr Magazine, January 2003*

IN PUBLICATIONS:

Listed in "**Best of the Best in the Business**" chosen for creativity, talent, originality, influence, impact on and contribution to the world of jazz.

Listed in "**Who's Who of the Best Female Singers-Entertainers and Foreign Artists Singing in English of All Time**". – (pgs 1769, 1780) of *Maximillien de Lafayette's "Music Showbiz and Entertainment – Volume III "*, Published by the *Federation of American Musicians, Singers and performing Artists (FAMSPA)*

2G Holocaust Legacy

Zola is the daughter of two Holocaust Survivors, Israel Jutan (Xavier Piatka) and Chayela Rosenthal who were born in Vilna, Poland.

Chayela was known as the "Wunderkind of the Vilna Ghetto" – "Songstress of Hope", singing the songs her brother Leyb Rozental and others wrote for her to perform in the Ghetto Theatre. Read more here www.chayela.com

Zola as a 2G (Second Generation) continues to preserve and honor the legacy of her parents and all her family lost, by doing multimedia presentations, speeches, educational talks, keynote addresses, telling their stories and singing their songs:

LINKS TO VIDEOS of TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

- YOM HASHOAH – Keynote address <https://youtu.be/6mLjXSj6wV4>
- Short Story, music and photos of Survivors Chayela and Xavier <https://youtu.be/Q34-wt-wzUY>
- Family Legacy of Music – From the Vilna Ghetto to Paris to Broadway <https://youtu.be/29zq9cLSLVM>
- Zola's song WE WILL REMEMBER YOU <https://youtu.be/d8Ci9Yc-UGg>
- Ep 1 – Obligations of Memory – JCHR <https://youtu.be/DUDovXxwCjY>
- Ep 2 – Obligations of Memory – JCHR <https://youtu.be/a9KNlqjhJuM>
- Ep 3 – Obligations of Memory – JCHR <https://youtu.be/gsjZjKuCuN4>
- Interview and songs – JCHR <https://youtu.be/EUw1WKXpj8g?list=PLmbWYwFMJ4WvhHVbSfjMOBT-nnoLe0NIT>
- KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON OPENING OF “VILNA GHETTO POSTERS” EXHIBIT – Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre <https://youtu.be/LgqDIFU7ell>
- Yiddish Book Center Interview (Boston, USA) <https://vimeo.com/805591190/0b4af72a09>

For more videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc1Mtohfr3Wu8fitSDVnkJg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjB6wWLE55w&list=PLmbWYwFMJ4WtKRuiLSe99Zd8KFJNbIZDx>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swmzfVtgaV8&list=PLmbWYwFMJ4WvhHVbSfjMOBT-nnoLe0NIT>

LINKS

- Facebook
- Mail
- YouTube
- Spotify
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- Soundcloud

iTUNES & APPLE MUSIC

SPOTIFY

YOUTUBE

FACEBOOK

AMAZON

INSTAGRAM

DEEZER

BANDCAMP

REVERB NATION

SOUNDCLOUD

PANDORA



LINKS TO ZOLA's FAMILY

CHAYELA ROSENTHAL – Yiddish Singer – Actress – Comedienne (mom)

XAVIER PIATKA – Holocaust Survivor – Journalist – Public Relations Exec (dad)

LEYB ROZENTAL – Writer, Poet, Activist, Songwriter, Playwright – Murdered by Nazi's in the Holocaust (uncle)

NAAVA PIATKA – Actress, Artist, Author, Playwright, 2G Speaker – (sister)

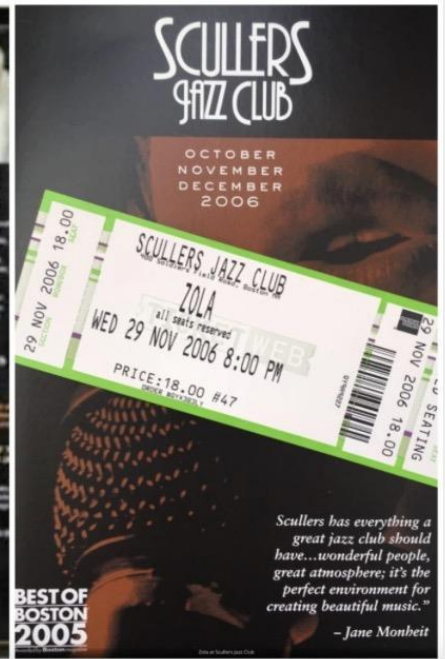
PHOTOS





With Jerry Vandiver





With Jimmy Webb

With Larry Henley (Wind Beneath My Wings)

Grammy winner Phil Galdston, Sam Hooper and Janice



Cape Town International Convention Center (2007)
Guests: Adam Davis, Shand, Ronnie Joyce, Zola & Selwyn Shandel (Indig

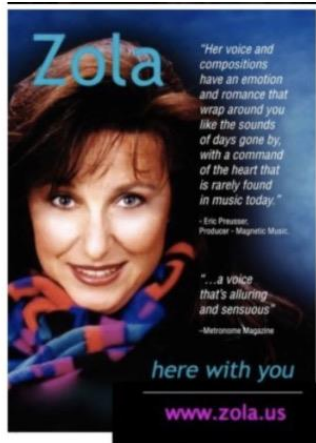
With Bill Duffy

With John and Jo Ann Braheny, Jon I

With Dan Merrill



The Dancing Pumpkin Team in LA
David Franco, Howard Butcher, Zola, Eric Pearson



With Zane Kucera



With Krisanthi at Scullers



Recording Studio, Hollywood 2007




Mixing with Andy Hayes - LA studio



With Arranger/Composer Bill Meyers

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ZOLA
TALKS ABOUT HER MOTHER
CHAYELA ROSENTHAL

TISHA B'AY @ MARAIS ROAD SHUL
Sat & Aug | 8PM (Maraix Road Shul)

THE WUNDERKIND OF THE VILNA GHETTO
A Survivors Story


Zola talks about her Mother
Singer, Actress, Comedian & Holocaust Survivor,
Chayela Rosenthal

Saturday 6 August
Fast begins 8:00pm

Sunday 7 August
Fast ends 8:30pm

Pravins & Eishes Y. Hapn
Open House • **Chayela Rosenthal**
Wishes • **Yehonatan**
Wishes • **Yehonatan**

Klezmer • **Yehonatan**
Wishes • **Yehonatan**
Wishes • **Yehonatan**



KlezmerLive
Yehonatan
Wishes • **Yehonatan**
Wishes • **Yehonatan**









"Mir Leyben Eybek"

"When Yiddish talk is no about her family that was lost in the Holocaust, and it was only in my last years that I learned about her brother, my uncle Leibel Rosenthal. I learned about her brother, my uncle Leibel Rosenthal, a talented songwriter. One of his better known songs, MIR LEYBEN EYBEK (My Love Forever) is extremely powerful. In songs of defiance and hope will sing now today and I will continue to proudly sing this song, as my mother Chaymle did before me... and so many others will do at the home."



ZOLA

"We Live Forever ... We Are Still Here"

"I am a daughter of two Holocaust survivors. I never knew my grandparents, or my Uncle Leibel. I only learned after her death, that my mother Chaymle, sang her songs in the Vilna Ghetto and in the camps... and after liberation, on stages in Displaced Person camps throughout Europe."



"At the start of my career I avoided singing in Yiddish because I felt that, that was my mother's thing, and my son's... until I was asked to sing at a Yiddish song festival. I then realized, this is my heritage, it really connected me back to my (Jewish) Yiddishkeit... it is a privilege and honor to sing these songs and it feels good. This is my legacy to share with the world."



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Zola first performed in Yiddish at a concert in Cape Town's 2016 Yiddish Song Festival where she sang her mother's and uncle's song, MY LEIBEN EYBEK (My Love Forever) arranged with her. Since then, Zola has added Yiddish songs to her repertoire, both live and via Zoom.

The Yiddish Song Festival Presents



"I 'understand' a number of hours crisscrossed full of photographs, poems, programs and newspaper clippings surrounding the work of my mother, my father and Uncle Leibel. My father, piece of paper - so how could I? Instead, I created a medium to hold and share all these precious memories."

CHRISTINA ROSENTHAL - DESIGNER / ARTIST / COMPOSER

